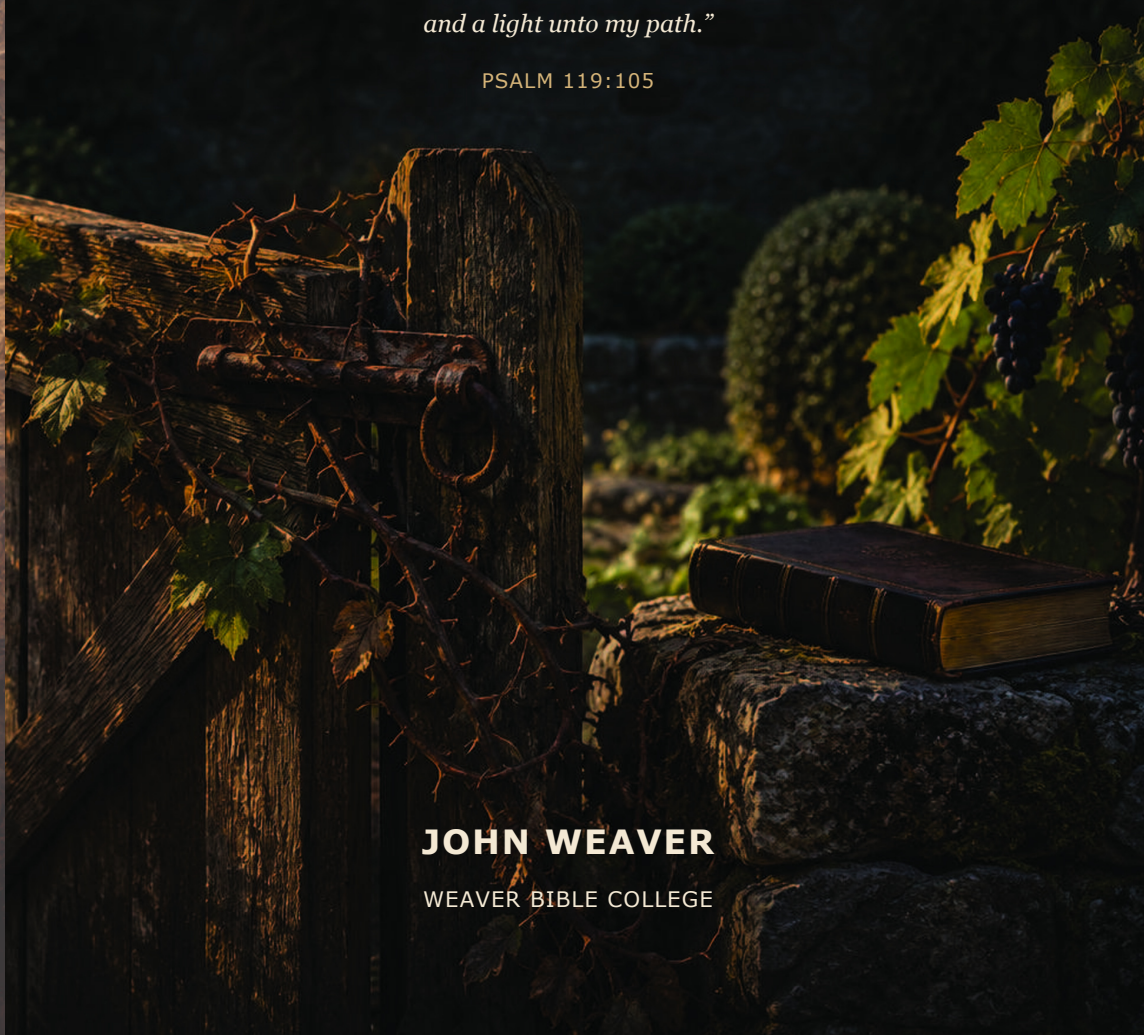
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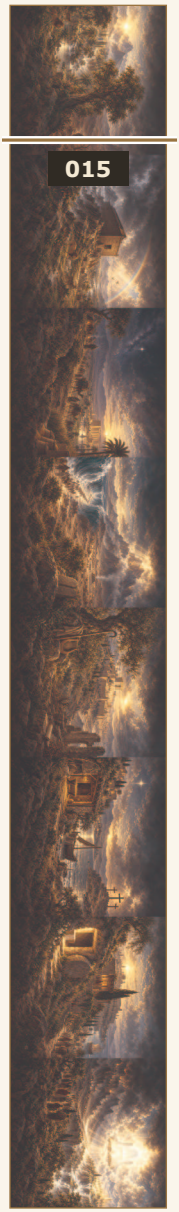
"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet,
and a light unto my path."

PSALM 119:105



JOHN WEAVER

WEAVER BIBLE COLLEGE



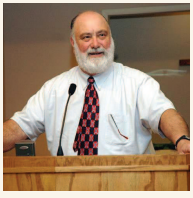
Keep yourselves from idols.

1 JOHN 5:21, EXCERPT

Spiritual unfaithfulness concerns the loyalties by which people live. John Weaver considers compromised allegiance, the attraction of false security, and the obligation to judge commitments by God's Word. These messages use biblical warnings to call readers toward wholehearted faithfulness rather than the accommodation of rival claims.

“These false prophets had either stolen God's Word, added to God's Word, or substituted for God's Word.”

JOHN WEAVER



John Weaver

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CHAPTER 1

Spiritual Fornication

Part One

Spiritual Fornication and Adultery

Introduction to Spiritual Fornication

Father, we are thankful for the Lord Jesus Christ and His grace and mercy to us. We are thankful for Your Word. We pray that You would indeed teach us and build us up in the most holy faith. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

I want you to open your Bibles to 2 Chronicles chapter 21. I want to bring two messages, tonight and tomorrow night, entitled "Spiritual Fornication and Adultery." I think you are going to see the significance and application of this in a newer way than you have ever thought about it. I will preach more from this passage tomorrow night, but tonight will be mainly introduction. Notice 2 Chronicles 21, beginning at verse 10.

The Bible says, "So the Edomites revolted from under the hand of Judah unto this day. The same time also did Libnah revolt from

under his hand"—that is King Jehoram—"because he had forsaken the Lord God of his fathers. Moreover, he made high places in the mountains of Judah, and caused the inhabitants of Jerusalem to commit fornication, and compelled Judah thereto." And there came a writing to him from Elijah the prophet, saying, "Thus saith the Lord God of David thy father, Because thou hast not walked in the ways of Jehoshaphat thy father, nor in the ways of Asa king of Judah, but hast walked in the way of the kings of Israel, and hast made Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to go a whoring, like to the whoredoms of the house of Ahab, and also hast slain thy brethren of thy father's house, which were better than thyself."

We are fleshly and physically oriented, and that is the way we think most of the time. We think in terms of the flesh, temporality, and carnality. Anytime you hear the word adultery, fornication, whoredom, or harlotry, you immediately begin thinking of that which is physical. You begin thinking of a wayward husband, a wayward wife, or a wayward child.

All those things are certainly true, and they are certainly spoken of in the Bible. There are passages that deal with the physical as well. But the truth of the matter is, whenever you see most of those terms in the Bible, they refer more to the spiritual aspect than the physical aspect.

If you look at 2 Chronicles 21:11, we are talking about King Jehoram. The Bible says, "Moreover, he"—that is, the king—"made high places in the mountains of Judah, and caused the inhabitants of Jerusalem to commit fornication, and compelled Judah thereto." It may surprise you to learn that of all the times the word "adultery" is used in the Old Testament, it refers to physical adultery only about six times. Two of those times refer to spiritual adultery as well. Every other time you see the word "adultery" in the Old Testament, it refers to spiritual adultery. In the New Testament, the word is frequently used not only to apply to the physical, but to the spiritual as well.

Biblical Usage of Adultery, Fornication, and Whoredom

An interesting thing is this: if you look at the word “fornication” in the Old Testament, each time it is used, it refers to spiritual fornication, not physical. The word “harlot” is used in the Old Testament a few times to refer to the physical, but most often it refers to that which is spiritual. An interesting study would be to examine in the Bible the correlation between the wayward wife and the wayward church.

Everyone is familiar with Ephesians chapter 5, where the Bible says, “Likewise, ye wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord.” Why? “For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church.” Therefore, the wife is to submit herself to her husband as the church does to Jesus Christ. The picture in the Bible of a submissive wife to her husband pictures and symbolizes the church in submission to Jesus Christ. You would have to ask yourself this question: What then does a wayward wife represent in picture?

When you look in Proverbs chapter 7 at the harlot, compare her attire, her approach, and all of this with the wayward church, or the harlot church.

If you say, “Brother Weaver, I think that’s far out,” how do you explain Revelation chapter 17, verse 5, when the Scripture says, “And upon her forehead was a name written, Mystery, Babylon the Great, the Mother of Harlots and Abominations of the Earth”? Another interesting thing is this: every time the word “whoredoms” is used in the Old Testament, it refers to spiritual whoredoms, or what we would call spiritual adultery or spiritual fornication. As you read through the Bible, you will find that the words “adultery,” “fornication,” “harlotry,” and “whoredoms” are often used interchangeably. More often than not, they speak of the spiritual aspect and not the physical aspect.

Now, they literally point to what you and I would simply call idolatry. To verify everything that I have told you, let me show you how these words are used in a number of passages. We will look at several passages in Jeremiah. Look what God says in Jeremiah 3,

verses 8 and 9: “And I saw, when for all the causes whereby backsliding Israel committed adultery.” How does a nation commit adultery? He said, “I had put her away and given her a bill of divorce; yet her treacherous sister Judah”—another kingdom—“feared not, but went and played the harlot also.” How does a nation play the harlot? “And it came to pass through the lightness of her whoredom, that she defiled the land, and committed adultery with stones and with stocks.” So here you have the words “adultery,” “whoredom,” and “harlotry” all used in reference to idolatry.

In Jeremiah 5:7, God asks, "How shall I pardon thee for this? Thy children have forsaken me and sworn by them that are no gods. When I had fed them to the full, they then committed adultery and assembled themselves by troops in the harlots' houses." I would encourage you to mark Jeremiah chapter 5; we will come back there a little bit later. Now, when you and I read that verse, since we are basically fleshly oriented, we think they committed adultery and assembled themselves by troops in the harlots' houses. But go back to the first part. He said, "How shall I pardon thee for this? Thy children have forsaken me and have sworn by them that are no gods." So the harlots' houses there would probably be the idols' temples and not just necessarily a red light district, as you and I would say.

Look also at Jeremiah 5:9: "Shall I not visit for these things? saith the Lord: and shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this?" I want to come back and emphasize this a little bit later. So all this, He is talking about nations now. It is nations that are committing adultery. It is nations that are playing the harlot. It is nations that are committing whoredom.

Now look at Jeremiah 23:14: "I have seen also in the prophets of Jerusalem a horrible thing: they commit adultery and walk in lies, and they strengthen also the hands of evildoers, that none doth return from his wickedness. They are all of them unto me as Sodom, and the inhabitants thereof as Gomorrah."

When God says, "I have seen also in the prophets of Jerusalem a horrible thing: they commit adultery," could they be committing physical adultery? Surely they could. But notice what He defines here as committing adultery: walking in lies, strengthening also the

hands of evildoers, and none returning from his wickedness. God calls that adultery. Moreover, He says they are all now as the inhabitants of Sodom and Gomorrah unto Him.

In Jeremiah 29:23, God says this concerning Israel: "Because they have committed villainy in Israel, and have committed adultery with their neighbors' wives, and have spoken lying words in my name, which I have not commanded them; even I know, and am a witness, saith the Lord."

There is physical adultery, but there is also spiritual adultery, because God says, “they've spoken lying words in my name.” In Ezekiel 23:37, He says: “That they have committed adultery, and blood is in their hands. And with their idols have they committed adultery, and also have caused their sons whom they bare unto me to pass for them through the fire to devour them.” Thus God says they have committed adultery, and blood is in their hands. He is talking about Molech worship: “And with their idols, have they committed adultery.”

Let me lay a foundation, because we are talking about something that ordinarily we should not even think about: spiritual fornication and adultery. Let me put it very plainly. The root cause of all sin, especially idolatry, is a theological, an ideological fornication.

Theological and Ideological Fornication Defined

I use those two words purposefully. Theology is the doctrine or knowledge of God. Ideology may refer to a body of doctrine, just as theology does, but it is more: an ideology is that which guides or directs a movement. Ideology is how you put your theology into practice.

First and foremost, there is a theological and ideological fornication. When God issued the seventh commandment, He said in Exodus 20:14, “Thou shalt not commit adultery.” What did God mean? Most of us often think of physical adultery, and that certainly is condemned. But there is spiritual adultery as well. You must remember what David said in Psalm 119:96: “I have seen an end of all perfection: but thy commandment is exceeding broad.” God's

commandment is indeed exceedingly broad. It covers not only physical adultery, but spiritual adultery as well.

SCRIPTURE READING - Isaiah 1:21-31 (KJV)

> When you adulterate something, you not only violate it, but you weaken it. You water it down. You dilute it. If something is adulterated, then it is weakened, watered down, and not what it was in the beginning.
>
> God simply says, "How is the faithful city become a harlot?" That's talking about Judah and Jerusalem. "How is the faithful city become a harlot? It was full of judgment; righteousness lodged in it; but now murderers. Thy silver is become dross, thy wine mixed with water. Thy princes are rebellious, and companions of thieves. Everyone loveth gifts, and followeth after rewards. They judge not the fatherless, neither doth the cause of the widow come before them."
>
> "Therefore thus saith the Lord, the Lord of hosts, the Mighty One of Israel, Ah, I will ease me of mine adversaries, and avenge me of mine enemies. And I will turn my hand upon thee, and purely purge away thy dross, and take away all thy tin. And I will restore thy judges as at the first, and thy counselors as at the beginning. Afterwards thou shalt be called the city of righteousness, the faithful city. Zion shall be redeemed with judgment, and her converts with righteousness."
>
> "And the destruction of the transgressors and of the sinners shall be together. And they that forsake the Lord shall be consumed. And they shall be ashamed of the oaks which ye have desired, and ye shall be confounded for the gardens that ye have chosen"—that's idolatrous places. "For ye shall be as an oak whose leaf fadeth, and as a garden that hath no water. And the strong shall be as tow, and the maker of it as a spark, and they shall both burn together, and none shall quench them."

For now, let us look back at verse 22. Look what God says: “Thy silver is become dross, thy wine mixed with water.” Suppose I had in this cup a glass of pure wine, or a cup of pure wine. Then I poured half of the wine into another glass and took water and poured it into that glass of wine. What has happened to that glass of wine? It is

really no longer wine. It is now adulterated, watered down, weakened, and diluted. It has become something totally different from what it was originally.

God says that you have added water to your wine. You have also added dross to your silver. I could have a silver coin that is one hundred percent silver, cut it in half, and add dross, tin, or copper to it, coming up with two coins. I have doubled what I had, but what I have done is literally adulterated that silver. It is now no longer pure silver. It has dross added to it; it is weakened, adulterated, and diluted. It has become something totally different from what it was before.

That is exactly what God is talking about here. Remember, we are talking right now about theological and ideological fornication. Do you want to know what has happened in our country? Go back and listen to how the preachers preached originally and initially in this country. Go back and read and listen to some of the election sermons, or just read some of the sermons that were being preached in the average, ordinary church in those days. You are going to find a big difference between what was preached then and what is being preached now.

Adulterating God's Word: Stealing, Adding, Substituting

Let me show you. Hold Isaiah 1; we are coming right back there. Turn to the book of Jeremiah, chapter 23. Jeremiah 23. We are going to begin reading at verse 25 and read through verse 32. Beginning with verse 25: “I have heard what the prophets said, that prophesy lies in my name, saying, I have dreamed, I have dreamed. How long shall this be in the heart of the prophets that prophesy lies? Yea, they are prophets of the deceit of their own heart; which think to cause my people to forget my name by their dreams which they tell every man to his neighbor, as their fathers have forgotten my name for Baal. The prophet that hath a dream, let him tell a dream; and he that hath my word, let him speak my word faithfully.”

“What is the chaff to the wheat? saith the Lord. Is not my word like as a fire? saith the Lord; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces? Therefore, behold, I am against the prophets, saith

the Lord, that steal my words every one from his neighbor. Behold, I am against the prophets, saith the Lord, that use their tongues and say, He saith. Behold, I am against them that prophesy false dreams, saith the Lord, and do tell them and cause my people to err by their lies and by their lightness." "Yet I sent them not, nor commanded them. Therefore they shall not profit this people at all, saith the Lord."

In Jeremiah 23, we find a special kind of whoredom. You have probably never thought about it like this. It is a special kind of spiritual fornication or spiritual adultery. What is it? It is theological and ideological fornication. For instance, look in verse 30. Look what God says: "Therefore, behold, I am against the prophets, saith the Lord, that steal my words every one from his neighbor."

Here is a question: How do you steal the Word of God? How does a pastor steal the Word of God? How does a preacher steal the Word of God? The answer is, he steals the Word of God either by not declaring it, preaching it, expounding it, and explaining it, or by giving to it a light and shallow meaning which is adulterated.

Stop and think about that. God said, "I'm against these prophets that steal my word." When you look in Jeremiah 23, God is condemning preachers who, number one, steal His word; who, number two, add to His word, which will be shown; and then, number three, substitute for His word. So God's Word can be stolen from the people. How? Through theological and ideological fornication.

Look, if you would please, in verse 31. He says, "Behold, I am against the prophets, saith the Lord, that use their tongues and say, He saith." In other words, the prophets are saying this is what God said, when God had not said anything. God had not spoken to them. They are simply adding to the word of God.

You are going to see this a little bit later, but let me just tell you: the blasphemy involved in this is serious. I am sorry if you know people like this, or if you happen to embrace this; I am sorry, but I believe you are absolutely wrong. I know—I know preachers. I know of professing Christians who come around and say, "Well, let me tell you about a revelation that God gave me, and let me show you the

vision that I had and the dream that I had." I am sorry. God is not giving new or additional revelation. We have the completed Word of God. Jesus Christ is the full and final revelation of God.

Hebrews 1:1-3 says, "God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets," and continues, "hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; who, being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high."

In the Old Testament, and some in the New Testament, there were visions, dreams, and trances. God spoke in time past, the Bible says, in many varied ways. But He has in these last days spoken unto us by His Son. Do you realize that Jesus Christ is the full and final revelation of God? What did Christ say? "No man hath seen the Father at any time, but the Son hath revealed the Father."

When someone comes along and says, "Well, let me tell you, I had some extra-biblical revelation, or I had this dream and I had this vision," no. What you are doing is saying Jesus Christ is not the full and final revelation of God. That is what you are saying. You have to remember that the Bible, first and foremost, is the written Word of God.

Second Timothy 3:16-17 says, "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." The Bible is the written Word of God. Jesus Christ is the living Word of God. John 1:1-3 says, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God."

"All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made." Skip down to verse 14: "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."

Jesus Christ is the living Word. The Bible is the written Word. You cannot have one attitude toward Jesus Christ and a different attitude

toward the Bible, nor can you have one attitude toward the Bible and a different attitude toward Jesus Christ. They go together. They stand or fall together. They are one and the same. Christ is the living Word; the Bible is the written Word.

That is why, in John 12:48, Christ put both of these together. Here is what He said: “He that rejecteth me”—that is the living Word—“and receiveth not my words”—that is the written Word—“hath one that judgeth him in the last day, even the word which I have spoken.”

Christ said that if you do not receive Him and do not receive His words, it is His words that are going to judge you. They stand or fall together. When someone says, “I need to show you something that’s not in the Bible; this is a revelation God has given me,” no. God is not giving new revelation.

There is a difference between revelation and illumination. Revelation is revealing truth never known before to the human mind. Illumination is opening our understanding so that we may understand what has already been revealed. When you are reading your Bible and suddenly say, “Why haven’t I seen that before?” that is not revelation. That is illumination. God just turned the light on for you. He let you see and understand what had already been revealed.

God says, “I’m against these prophets who say, ‘He saith,’ when He hasn’t said anything.” You can steal the Word of God. You can add to the Word of God. In Jeremiah 23:32, God says, “Behold, I am against them that prophesy false dreams, saith the Lord, and do tell them, and cause my people to err by their lies and by their lightness; yet I sent them not, nor commanded them. Therefore they shall not profit this people at all, saith the Lord.”

Here you have people substituting their dreams, their will, and their word for God’s will and God’s Word. God says that is not going to profit anybody at all—not at all.

Zephaniah 3:4 says concerning Israel, "Her prophets are light and treacherous persons. Her priests have polluted the sanctuary, they have done violence to the law." God is condemning the prophets and

the priests as being theological fornicators, as being theological adulterers.

These false prophets had either stolen God's Word, added to God's Word, or substituted for God's Word. Now go back to Isaiah chapter 1, beginning with verse 21. Isaiah shows us the consequences and results of theological fornication.

Consequences of Theological Fornication

Factually speaking, adulterated products are not real and genuine products. Adulterated truth is not truth. Half-truth presented as a whole truth is a lie. So you can take half of something and present it as the whole truth, and it is a lie. That is what adulterated truth is: it is not genuine truth.

Remember, Isaiah is speaking about Judah and Jerusalem. He says, "How is the faithful city become a harlot?" Judah and Jerusalem were at one time faithful. What were they like when they were faithful? They were full of judgment; righteousness lodged in them. That was their condition when they were faithful. But now they had become theologically and ideologically adulterated. What were they like now? Murderers lodge in it now.

He says in verse 22, "Thy silver is become dross, thy wine mixed with water." "Thy princes are rebellious, and companions of thieves. Everyone loveth gifts, and followeth after rewards. They judge not the fatherless, neither doth the cause of the widow come before them."

If you want to know what the effects and consequences of theological fornication really are, here they are: corruption, rebellion, dishonesty, and injustice. If you would like to know the root cause of all familial, individual, ecclesiastical, political, and governmental sins, it is theological fornication. I am going to show you that just momentarily. The reason we are so perverse in this country is because of theological fornication. I do not care which area you look in or which area you examine. There is another consequence of theological fornication. What is it? Judgment. Look at what God said in verse 24: "Therefore thus saith the Lord, the Lord of hosts, the Mighty One of Israel."

"Ah, I will ease me of mine adversaries, and avenge me of mine enemies." Skip down to verse 27: "Zion shall be redeemed with judgment." What is God telling us? God is telling us that He's going to judge us, not only individually and familially and ecclesiastically, but He's going to judge us nationally because of our theological fornication. Let me give you a good illustration.

Turn to the book of Amos, chapter 7. Amos was from the southern kingdom of Judah, and God sent him to prophesy against the northern kingdom of Israel. He is now being confronted by Amaziah, who is a harlot priest and prophet. Begin with verse 14: "Then answered Amos and said to Amaziah, I was no prophet, neither was I a prophet's son; but I was an herdman, and a gatherer of sycamore fruit."

But Amaziah says something first to Amos: "Also Amaziah said unto Amos, O thou seer, go, flee thee away into the land of Judah, and there eat bread, and prophesy there: but prophesy not again any more at Bethel: for it is the king's chapel, and it is the king's court."

The Law of Retribution and National Judgment

Amaziah said to Amos, “Flee thee into thine own land of Judah. There eat bread and prophesy. You want to preach? You go down there and preach. You better get out of here.” He threatened to have him killed and explained why: “But prophesy not again any more at Bethel: for it is the king’s chapel, and it is the king’s court.” This was under Jeroboam II.

Amos answered in verse fourteen, “I was no prophet, neither was I a prophet’s son; but I was an herdman, and a gatherer of sycamore fruit: and the Lord took me as I followed the flock, and the Lord said unto me, Go, prophesy unto my people Israel.”

Then Amos said, “Now therefore hear thou the word of the Lord: Thou sayest, Prophesy not against Israel, and drop not thy word against the house of Isaac. Therefore thus saith the Lord; Thy wife shall be an harlot in the city, and thy sons and thy daughters shall fall by the sword, and thy land shall be divided by line; and thou shalt die in a polluted land: and Israel shall surely go into captivity forth of his land.”

There is in the Bible that which is known as the Lex Talionis—L-E-X Talionis, T-A-L-I-O-N-I-S—which is Latin for the law of retribution. It is where God makes the punishment fit the crime. In Deuteronomy and Exodus, He said, “an eye for an eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.” He makes the punishment fit the crime.

Amaziah was a harlot priest, a priest of the golden calves that Jeroboam I had set up. He was not a prophet and not God’s prophet. God said, in effect, “You’re a harlot priest. You’re not my priest. You’ve committed theological fornication; therefore, your wife shall be a harlot. You kill my children with your lies; therefore, your children shall die.”

“You polluted my land with your untruth. You’re going to die in a polluted land.” Everything God told Amos to say to Amaziah was in line with the law of retribution.

As plain as this is against an individual, it is equally plain against the nation. Go back in your Bibles to Jeremiah 5. God asks, “How shall I pardon thee for this?” He is talking about the nation now.

He says, “Thy children have forsaken me, and sworn by them that are no gods. When I had fed them to the full, they then committed adultery, and assembled themselves by troops in the harlots' houses. They were as fed horses in the morning: every one neighed after his neighbor's wife.”

“Shall I not visit for these things? saith the Lord: and shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this?” Here is a nation that has committed theological fornication. God says, “I'm going to avenge my soul on such a nation as this.” What is He going to do? “Go ye up upon her walls, and destroy; but make not a full end: take away her battlements; for they are not the Lord's.”

The battlements were placed there for protection so they could defend themselves. God is saying, Take away their defenses, because those defenses are not mine. “For the house of Israel and the house of Judah have dealt very treacherously against me, saith the Lord. They have belied”—that is, they lied against the Lord—“and said, It is not he; neither shall evil come upon us; neither shall we see sword or

famine: and the prophets shall become wind, and the word is not in them: thus shall it be done unto them."

They committed theological fornication; they turned from God. They lied against Him and dealt treacherously against Him. God says, "Take away their battlements." He is going to judge and destroy them.

Jeremiah 5:22 asks, "Fear ye not me? saith the Lord: will ye not tremble at my presence, which have placed the sand for the bound of the sea by a perpetual decree, that it cannot pass it?" Though the waves toss themselves and roar, they cannot prevail or pass over it. "But this people hath a revolting and a rebellious heart; they are revolted and gone." Why do they have a rebellious and revolting heart? Because of theological fornication.

If you don't believe right, you can't act right. Their theology was wrong. Look what he says in verse 24: "Neither say they in their heart, Let us now fear the Lord our God, that giveth rain, both the former and the latter, in his season: he reserveth unto us the appointed weeks of the harvest." They were not interested in fearing God. He says in verse 25, "Your iniquities have turned away these things, and your sins have withholden good things from you."

"For among my people are found wicked men: they lay wait, as he that setteth snares; they set a trap, they catch men. As a cage is full of birds, so are their houses full of deceit: therefore they are become great, and waxen rich. They are waxen fat, they shine: yea, they overpass the deeds of the wicked: they judge not the cause, the cause of the fatherless, yet they prosper; and the right of the needy do they not judge."

"Shall I not visit for these things? saith the Lord: shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this? A wonderful and horrible thing is committed in the land; the prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so: and what will ye do in the end thereof?" God says in verse 28 concerning Israel and Judah, "they are waxen fat, they shine." They overpass the deeds of the wicked. They are worse than the heathen. Then he says, "Shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this?" So theological fornication always brings the judgment of God.

Theology Precedes Culture

If you get nothing else, get this: You cannot have a change in culture without a previous change in theology. A change in theology always precedes a change in culture. The reason our society and culture change is because our theology has changed. Culture is nothing more than religion externalized. Let me give you a couple of examples.

I remember when I was a boy. My father used to take us down to Miami, Florida, every Christmas, and we would visit our relatives there for two weeks because my father was a farmer. During the winter, he was basically through with all his crops. My father had machinery, even when I was a boy, that was worth $50,000 back then.

We never had a lock on our doors. Our windows were never locked. We would go off for two weeks, and the house would be unlocked. All the equipment was under the shelter and out in the barn. We would come back two weeks later, and everything was exactly the way we left it. I was in the fifties. You try that today.

If I wanted to see a policeman, I had to go uptown and look around. There were hardly any. Today, I have probably seen more police officers driving up here than I ever saw in a year's time when I was a boy. You know why? Because when I was a boy, at least most people, even those who were unconverted, would at least attempt to follow the Ten Commandments. They at least had some morality about them. You don't have that today.

I remember the first time I ever found out that there was such a thing as a sodomite. My wife and I were married. I know they were always around; they were back then, in the closet maybe. But I remember exactly what I said when somebody told me that: "Nobody is that stupid." Those were my exact words.

But what I'm trying to say is, look how our culture has changed—in Washington, D.C., in politics, in the courtrooms, everywhere. Why? You cannot have a change in culture unless you have a change in theology. You want to know what went wrong in Isaiah chapter 1, in Jeremiah 23, and in all these passages? It is because their theology changed, and therefore their culture changed.

He said, "How the faithful city become a harlot?" Here is what you used to be. Now look what you are.

Let me give you two illustrations that you can argue with. The first one is this: We send—I want to say millions, but it is probably billions of dollars in aid to India. We send food to India, grain. You know what happens to most of that grain, most of that food we send? The rats eat it. Cows defecate on it. If you don't believe me, I have video footage. I can show you these Indian women and men going into the temple with these big wharf rats and a big bowl of milk. They put it down for the rats and then bow down and worship the rats as the rats eat. Cows go in where all the grain is stored. Rats go in just eating. What? Reincarnation.

That could be somebody's aunt or somebody's uncle. You will never change the culture of India until you change the theology of India. When the theology changes, the culture changes.

Some of you remember seeing a movie that came out a number of years ago called "Black Hawk Down." It was about our soldiers in Somalia. They went over to capture the warlord Aidid, I think his name was. He was a drug dealer. Those Somalis shot down some of the Black Hawk helicopters and killed the pilots. When that movie came on television years ago, I watched it. About a year or so later, it came on again, and I thought, "Well, I'll watch it again." I was so thankful I did, because I saw something the second time that I had never seen the first time: one of those Black Hawk pilots lived.

They had taken this pilot and beaten him almost to a bloody pulp. He was tied, sitting against the wall—eyes swollen, almost completely shut, cut up, bloody, bleeding, but conscious. One of the warlords, one of the black warlords, pointed his finger and said—I'm going to paraphrase, because I don't have the exact words, but this was the essence: "You stupid Americans, you think you can come over here and cram your democracy down our throats and stop us from killing, when killing has been a way of life for us for a thousand years?"

What did he just say? That's our culture. Why is it their culture? Because of their lack of theology. You never change Somalia until you change the theology.

What has happened in this country? Here is what has happened: we have become theological fornicators. We have become theological adulterers. We have stolen God's words. We have substituted our words and our will for His. We have taken from and added to.

Spiritual Adultery Leads to Physical Immorality

Now let me show you how this ties together. I want you to go to the book of Hosea, chapter 4, right after Daniel. This may surprise you. Here again is a good illustration of the lex talionis, the law of retribution. Look carefully. Hosea chapter 4, beginning with verse 13. In fact, let's read verse 12; verse 12 is so plain. God says: "My people ask counsel at their stocks"—that is, their idols—"and their staff declareth unto them"—another idol. "For the spirit of whoredoms hath caused them to err, and they have gone a whoring from under their God."

"They sacrifice upon the tops of the mountains, and burn incense upon the hills, under oaks and poplars and elms, because the shadow thereof is good." Now look what God says, "Therefore your daughters shall commit whoredom, and your spouses shall commit adultery. And I will not punish your daughters when they commit whoredom, nor your spouses when they commit adultery: for they themselves are separated with whores, and they sacrifice with harlots. Therefore the people that doth not understand shall fall." What did God just say? They're spiritual adulterers. You're spiritual fornicators.

Your children are going to turn out just like you. Spiritual adultery always leads to physical adultery. Spiritual fornication always leads to physical fornication. If we are unafraid to whore around on the sovereign God of heaven and earth, what makes you think we'll fear to be unfaithful to our spouses? That's what he's saying. Listen, folks.

You cannot violate the second table of the law until you violate the first table of the law. You cannot commit adultery physically until you violate, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." What you have done is dethroned God and enthroned yourself, saying in essence, "I don't care what God says; I'm going to do what I want to

do." What God is showing us is this: what begins as theological fornication always ends up in immorality. Always.

Why are we so immoral in this country? We're theological fornicators. Look at what God says to the church of Thyatira: "And unto the angel of the church in Thyatira write; These things saith the Son of God, who hath his eyes like unto a flame of fire, and his feet are like fine brass. I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first. Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols. And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not. Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds. And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works."

Notice that he said, "Thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication"—physical, yes—"and to eat things sacrificed unto idols"—spiritual, yes.

A change in theology always leads to a change in culture. Whenever you have a Jezebel, a false prophet, or someone who will steal God's words, add to God's word, or substitute for God's words, inevitably there will be corruption, immorality, idolatry, and the judgment of God. The judgment of God will follow like night follows day.

Application and Self-Examination

Now, let me make some applications. Here is the first question that we really must face and ask ourselves, not only as individuals, but as a family, as a church, and as a nation: Are we theological fornicators? Have we played light and loose with the Word of God? Do we treat God with contempt? You can also ask yourself this question: What is the main purpose of your life? Is your main

purpose to really and truly honor and glorify God, or is your main purpose something else?

Let me submit something to you for your consideration. I believe that, in all probability—and I know there are exceptions—most churches in our land have actually committed the sin that Israel did in Hosea chapter 8 and verse 14, where God says, "Israel hath forgotten his Maker, and buildeth temples." In other words, we are not really concerned with God right now. What we are concerned with is our ministry, our work, and our success.

That is where the average pastor is. That is where the average Christian is. We have forgotten God, and we are building our kingdom. We are building our ministry and our work. Consequently, there are a lot of preachers who will not preach a lot of things because it tends to divide and drive people away. We need all the people we can get because we have these sinking fund payments that we have to make.

The Spirit of Whoredoms and Call to Fidelity

So what do we do? We have become theological fornicators. Here is something else we need to remember and consider: We must never forget that there is also a spirit of whoredoms that compels us and drives us to spiritual and physical fornication. It is something that we have to fight against all the time. Hosea 4 and verse 12 says, "My people ask counsel at their stocks, and their staff declareth unto them: for the spirit of whoredoms hath caused them to err, and they have gone a whoring from under their God."

I want to offer this for your consideration. If you will take the time and read through the Bible again, underline the word "adultery." Underline the word "fornication." Underline the words "whoredom," "whoredoms," "harlot," and "harlotry." You are going to find that most of the time, they refer to spiritual adultery.

Let me close with this. Think about it. I think you will understand it even more tomorrow night. There are some individuals who have gone through the heartbreak and heartache of having a spouse who committed physical adultery. You sit and think about something like that.

How awful that must be. How hurtful that must be. How humiliating that must be. You sit there and say, “Does that mean I’m insufficient? Does that mean I cannot satisfy my mate? Does that mean I’m being rejected?” As those thoughts rush in, they crush and weigh you down. Have you ever stopped to think that’s exactly what we’re doing to God? We’re saying to God, “You’re insufficient. You can’t satisfy me. You’re not enough.”

“I need this idol, or I need this sin, or need this.” It is absolute blasphemy to say that the sovereign God of heaven and earth, who is the all-sufficient One, is insufficient for us. He is God, and beside Him there is none else. His Word is true. What we need to come back to is a theological and ideological foundation of the one true God and His Word.

Father, in the name of Jesus Christ, we bow to Thee tonight. We ask for Your grace, mercy, and help. Teach us, give us something to think about and apply to our hearts, and make us true to Thee. May we be theologically and ideologically true. May we not be fornicators. May we worship Thee and Thee alone. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, we ask and pray. Amen.

CHAPTER 2

Spiritual Fornication

Part Two

Introduction and Review

Father, we are thankful tonight for the Lord Jesus Christ, for His Word, and for His truth. We ask for Your blessing tonight. Help us to live for Thee, to learn, to consider Thy Word, and to apply it, in the name of Jesus Christ, we ask and pray. Amen.

Let's begin tonight where we left off last night. Open your Bibles to 2 Chronicles chapter 21. We are going to look again at verses 10 through 13; in fact, we will look more closely at 2 Chronicles 21.

Some of you may be familiar with the information I am going to give you, but you may not be familiar with it from this perspective, because we are still talking about spiritual fornication and spiritual adultery. When you begin thinking about spiritual fornication scripturally, it involves so many areas of life that it is almost unbelievable. I have only named three. I am only going to cover one tonight, but last night I covered spiritual fornication in theology and ideology. Tonight I want you to see spiritual fornication in reference

to the civil and governmental sphere. I will not be able to cover spiritual fornication in relation to economics and commercialism. You have to remember that in Revelation chapter 17 there is not only a religious Babylon, but when you get to Revelation 18, there is also a commercial Babylon.

The Wickedness of King Jehoram

Let us look in 2 Chronicles 21, beginning with verse 10. Remember, this is King Jehoram of whom we are speaking. The Bible says, "So the Edomites revolted from under the hand of Judah unto this day. The same time also did Libnah revolt from under his hand because he had forsaken the Lord God of his fathers. Moreover, he made high places in the mountains of Judah and caused the inhabitants of Jerusalem to commit fornication and compelled Judah thereto." And there came a writing to him from Elijah the prophet, saying, "Thus saith the Lord God of David thy father, because thou hast not walked in the ways of Jehoshaphat thy father, nor in the way of Asa king of Judah, but hast walked in the way of the kings of Israel, and hast made Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to go whoring, like to the whoredoms of the house of Ahab, and hast also slain thy brethren of thy father's house, which were better than thyself."

Everything begins with a theological and ideological fornication. The truth is absolutely plain: whenever we err theologically, we are going to err in a vast number of arenas. Theological fornication always precedes a change in culture, in our lives, and in society. Our theology, or our lack of theology, affects every area of our life.

We do what we do because we believe what we believe. Or we do what we do because we do not have any theology; we do not understand. The Bible says in John 8, our Lord said, "You shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free." If you do not know the truth, very obviously you are not free. Our Lord also said in Hosea 4, verse 6, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge."

When we do not take the Word of God seriously, we are going to be in serious trouble. Theological fornication always leads to fornication in other areas as well. One such area that we have never really considered in this light is the civil and governmental area. When you look at Scripture, you will find that God considers an

ungodly and reprobate civil government as fornication—spiritual fornication.

The Bible tells us in 2 Kings 18:18 that Jehoram did evil in the sight of the Lord and walked in the ways of the house of Ahab. Ahab was the husband of Jezebel and one of the most wicked, vile kings of the northern kingdom. In fact, he is classified as the most wicked. The most wicked king in the southern kingdom was Manasseh, but Ahab was the most wicked king in the northern kingdom.

The interesting thing about Jehoram is that he came from a good stock. His father was King Jehoshaphat, under whom there was a great revival. His grandfather was King Asa, a godly man. Both Jehoshaphat and Asa were not only godly men; they had godly rule. So what went wrong? How could such godly men and godly rulers produce such an ungodly, wicked, reprobate son and grandson? In 2 Chronicles 21, verses 5 and 6, we find exactly where his perversity and depravity came from. 2 Chronicles 21:5 says, "Jehoram was 32 years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem."

“And he walked in the ways of the kings of Israel, like as did the house of Ahab. Why? For he had the daughter of Ahab to wife. And he wrought that which was evil in the eyes of the Lord.” Jehoram had married Athaliah, who was the daughter of Ahab and Jezebel. Jehoram was so wicked and so vile that he murdered his own brothers just so that he could solidify his own kingdom. If you look in 2 Chronicles 21, after verse 2, all of his brothers are named.

The Bible says in verse 3, “And their father gave them great gifts of silver, and of gold, and of precious things, with fenced cities in Judah: but the kingdom gave he to Jehoram, because he was his firstborn. Now when Jehoram was risen up to the kingdom of his father, he strengthened himself, and slew all his brethren with the sword, and divers also of the princes of Israel.” Jehoram had murdered his own brothers, as well as many other godly princes. Consequently, when Ahaziah died—Ahaziah was the son of Jehoram and Athaliah—Jehoram’s wife, Athaliah, did a very ungrandmotherly thing: she murdered all of her grandchildren, with the exception of one. The only reason she did not murder him was because he was hidden.

2 Kings chapter 11 tells us what Athaliah did: “And when Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she arose and destroyed all the seed royal. But Jehosheba, the daughter of king Jehoram, sister of Ahaziah, took Joash the son of Ahaziah, and stole him from among the king’s sons which were slain; and they hid him, even him and his nurse, in the bedchamber from Athaliah, so that he was not slain. And he was with her hid in the house of the Lord six years. And Athaliah did reign over the land.” Athaliah murdered all of her grandchildren except one, and she would have gotten him had he not been hidden from her. That was a wife I would not want and a grandmother I would not care to have.

Principles from Jehoram's Life

Before we go any further, let me point out several truths here. First, it does matter whom you marry. Because Jehoram married wrong, he may already have been depraved and wicked, but his wife made him even more wicked. The same thing happened with Jezebel. The Bible says that Jezebel provoked Ahab to more evil. So it does matter whom you marry.

But the truth I really want to emphasize is simply this: godly men do not always produce godly children. Jehoshaphat was a godly man. He was the father of Jehoram. Asa was the grandfather, and he was a godly man. Yet here you have Jehoram, who turned out to be an absolute reprobate.

I have to tell you about Reverend Isaac Case. Reverend Isaac Case died at the age of ninety-one on November 3, 1852. Right after the American War for Independence, he was preaching and teaching in Maine, centered around Readfield, Maine. He started Baptist churches in Readfield and Thomaston, Maine, and was very active in the ministry until his death at the age of ninety-one.

He baptized a countless number of people. In those days, you did not count a convert unless he was baptized and added to the church, so he baptized a lot. He also started several churches. In 1904, Dr. A. R. Crane presented a paper to the Maine Baptist Missionary Convention entitled “The Baptist Ministers in Maine from 1804 to 1904.” He mentioned Isaac Case as one of the leading Baptist

preachers of that era and said that he had heard Isaac Case preach when he was an old man.

He said Isaac Case, as an old man, not only had a tremendous grasp of Scripture, but had as much power with God as any man he had ever known. Yet there was one thing he could not understand: why Isaac Case's grown son did not darken the doorway of the church. Dr. Crane asked Case's grown son why he did not attend church. Although Case's son was unconverted, he had a pretty good grasp of theology. When Dr. Crane asked him why he did not attend church, he said this.

"Grace is not hereditary, depravity is." Grace is not hereditary, but depravity is. That is what he was saying: "I'm depraved. I got it from my father and my mother." Do you realize all a godly person can do is pray for their children, witness to their children, lead their children, and teach their children? Only God can save them. Godly men do not always produce godly children.

The next truth I want to emphasize is equally plain: We reap that which we sow. That is true not only individually, familially, and ecclesiastically; it is also true nationally. No one escapes this principle. God said, "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."

What did Jehoram do? Jehoram had no mercy upon his own family. He murdered his brothers. He had no mercy upon the nation because he compelled them into idolatry. He forced them. Undoubtedly, many of them wanted to as well, but he did force them into idolatry. Basically, he destroyed not only his family and his nation.

If you will look in your Bibles, hold 2 Chronicles, but turn to the book of Hosea, chapter 1, right after the book of Daniel. When you look in Hosea, remember that Hosea married Gomer, who was an unfaithful wife. God commanded Hosea to marry Gomer because his marriage was to be a picture of what Israel had done to God. In Hosea 1:2, the Bible says, "The beginning of the word of the Lord by

Hosea. And the Lord said to Hosea, Go, take unto thee a wife of whoredoms and children of whoredoms."

Why? "For the land hath committed great whoredom, departing from the Lord."

Now you are going to have to ask yourself this question, and I hope we are going to answer it tonight: How did Israel depart from the Lord? It was not just theologically and ideologically. That was only the foundation. Skip down to verse 6, because here we are talking about one of the children, and here is what God says concerning this child: "And she conceived again, and bare a daughter. And God said unto him, Call her name Lo-ruhamah: for I will no more have mercy upon the house of Israel; but I will utterly take them away." You destroyed your family. You destroyed the nation. I am going to destroy you.

You reap what you sow. This is true nationally, just as it is individually. The next principle is that covenants are binding. God basically married Israel; Israel was considered a wife to the Lord, joined to Him as to a husband. Thus, when she committed idolatry, she was guilty of spiritual fornication and spiritual adultery—adultery against Jehovah.

Covenantal Nature of Government

In 2 Chronicles 21:11, the Bible says concerning Jehoram: “Moreover he made high places in the mountains of Judah, and caused the inhabitants of Jerusalem to commit fornication, and compelled Judah thereto.” Jehoram, who married Athaliah, the daughter of Ahab and Jezebel, not only permitted Baal worship, Asherah worship, and all types of idolatry into the land; he compelled, or forced, the people into idolatry. Thus, this new governmental religion was considered spiritual fornication or spiritual adultery.

When the Bible talks about groves, you will read how Ahab built a grove and Manasseh put groves in the house of the Lord. Anytime you see the word grove in the Old Testament, with the exception of Genesis 22 and verse 31, it refers to something different from the grove of trees Abraham planted. We speak of a pecan grove, a pecan orchard, or a peach grove. But every other time the word grove is

used in the Old Testament, it is the word Asherah, which was a sex goddess and part of Baal worship. These groves are not trees planted by some king; they are idolatry.

Thus, in 2 Chronicles 21, you have a new governmental religion. Do we have a governmental religion today? Yes. I am not merely going to call it humanism. It is humanism, but it is a governmental religion of political correctness. That will become more conveniently known in just a moment.

Covenants are binding. In your Bible, you usually see Old Testament and New Testament. The word Testament simply means covenant: Old Covenant, New Covenant. We are still a covenantal people, bound by a covenant, and it is just as easy to violate a covenant with God today as it was in the Old Testament. So I want you to see civil and governmental fornication and understand it from this perspective: all government is covenantal in nature.

This includes our family, our church, and our nation. Husbands and wives are engaged in covenants. Children are covenantally obligated to their parents, and parents are covenantally obligated to their children. When you come to the church, you are covenantally obligated to that church. Whether you have a covenant up on the wall or not is immaterial. There is a covenant based upon the Word of God. All government is covenantal in nature, including civil government.

Now, I want you to turn, hold 2 Chronicles 21, but turn very quickly to Romans chapter 13. I am not going to preach this chapter. I've done so a multitude of times past, but I want to just show you something just to refresh your mind for just a few minutes before I go further. I want you to notice, if you would, verses 1 and 2, first and foremost, of Romans chapter 13, where God says, "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God." Now, look what he says. Verse two, "Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation" or condemnation. Now, when he says in verse one, "Let every soul be subject to the higher powers," the word powers there is exousia, which literally means authorities or jurisdictions or power. He says there is no authority but that which is of God. If anyone has

any authority at all, I don't care if you're talking about a husband, I don't care if you're talking about a pastor, I don't care if you're talking about a Congress, anyone who has any authority at all, God established it.

That's why he said in verse 2, it is the ordinance of God. Now, let me just answer this question for you. I hope you're asking, why then did God establish civil government? Well, look very quickly at verse 4. He's talking about the civil ruler here. In fact, go back to verse 3. He says, "For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same." So we're talking about civil rulers. Now watch in verse 4. "For he," the civil ruler, "is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid."

"For he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil."

Twice in verse 4, the civil ruler, or the government, is referred to as a minister. The Greek word is diakonos, from which we get our English word deacon, and it literally means servant. God ordained civil government to be His deacon, or His servant. In the same verse, the civil ruler is called a revenger. The Greek word is ekdikos. Ek is a preposition meaning out of or from, and dikaios is righteousness. Literally, he is to exact God's righteousness; he is to draw out that righteousness.

Why did God ordain civil government? Number one, to be His servant. Number two, to be His exactor of righteousness. It is not government that determines right and wrong; it is God that determines right and wrong. It is not government that determines what is just; it is God that determines what is just. Government is ordained by God to exact His justice and His righteousness. Verse 6 says, “For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing.”

The word ministers there is different from diakonos in verse 4. In verse 6, it is leitourgoi, or leitourgos in the singular, from which we get our English word liturgy. What is a liturgy? It is a public form of worship. Every church has a liturgy. “Brother Weaver, I go to Baptist church. We don't have liturgies.” Oh, yes, you do. You open in

prayer, sing hymns, receive an offering, hear preaching, and have a closing hymn. That's a liturgy—a public form of worship. So civil government was ordained to be His deacon, His servant; His exactor of righteousness; and His public worship. Wow.

Even in the Old Testament, as well as in the New Testament, government is shown to be covenantal in nature. In 2 Kings 11:17, the Bible says, “And Jehoiada made a covenant between the Lord and the king and the people, that they should be the Lord's people.” It then says, “between the king also and the people.” Here are two covenants, both related but distinct. Jehoiada the high priest made a covenant between the Lord, the king, and the people that they should be the Lord's people. In this first covenant, the king agreed to be God's king, and the people agreed to be God's people.

That is the first covenant. Here is the second covenant: Jehoiada also made a covenant between the king and the people. In that covenant, the king agreed to rule faithfully, and the people agreed to obey him as long as he did. It is just that simple. If you look in 2 Chronicles 23:16, you will see the same exact truth. The Bible says that Jehoiada made a covenant between him, that is God, and between all the people, and between the king, that they should be the Lord's people.

When our country was first founded, every colony—which would now be every state—of the thirteen initially covenanted to be God's people. In fact, as liberal as Massachusetts is, originally its charter said, “The laws of this colony shall be the laws of God as given through Moses. The judicial laws of Moses are the laws of this colony.” Our forefathers entered into a covenant with God. This was stated in the original charters and constitutions of the colonies.

Even if you disregard all of the original history, when you look at our Constitution, whether you like it or not, whether you agree with it or not is immaterial. The truth of the matter is that the Constitution is a covenant between the people and the government. The government agrees to rule constitutionally, and the people agree to obey as long as it does rule constitutionally. The two parties therefore have distinct obligations within that covenant.

I am preaching two messages on the essence of rebellion. In my first message, I show, quoting the Supreme Court, and I'm Juror 16, that no one is obligated to obey an unconstitutional law, even when the Supreme Court says it is unconstitutional from its inception. You do not have to wait for a court to say, "This is unconstitutional." No. An unconstitutional law is not binding on anyone. Why? Because the Constitution is a type of covenant.

Foundational Truths Before 1 Samuel 8

Now, turn to 1 Samuel, chapter 8, and hold that passage. We will come back in a moment and read some Scriptures there. Before we look at 1 Samuel 8, there are several things to consider. Now that you understand that government is covenantal in nature, you are going to see this even more clearly from this passage. You are going to see, I hope, how Israel got out from under God and His kingdom and got under man and man's kingdom. You are going to see the same thing that happened in America as well.

The only way that you can understand 1 Samuel 8 is to see it, or to view it, as a transition from one law structure to another law structure. Whenever there is a change in rulers, there is a change in law. A king rules by his law. If the king is changed, the law has changed. Remember this: a king rules by his law, and if the king is changed, the law has changed.

Before we look at 1 Samuel 8, hold that passage, but go ahead and turn to Deuteronomy, chapter 6, because there are things you need to see. The very first thing that you need to consider is that we must understand that God is one and His law is one. God is one, and His law is one. You can say it like this: one God.

One law. Deuteronomy chapter 6, verse 4, is known as the Shema Yisrael. In an Orthodox synagogue, you might hear: "Shema Yisrael, Adonai Eloheinu, Adonai echad." All they are saying is this: "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord." Since He is one, "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart," one Lord, one law. "And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and

when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes."

"And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates." God says, I am one. And my law is one: one God, one law. We live in a universe and not in a multiverse. God is one, His law is one, and His law is the absolute standard to which man must conform.

Israel, whether Old Testament or New Testament Israel, could not and we cannot leave God or His law without committing spiritual fornication and spiritual adultery, because God is one and His law is one.

When someone tries to say, "That can't possibly be true," it is true. The only way to deny that statement is by asserting polytheism, which is many gods, or some system of evolution. If you say, God is one, but His law is no longer valid, what happened? Did we change gods? Or did God evolve? Or did God get smarter? The Bible says in Romans chapter 7 and verse 12 that the law is holy, just, and good. Any time you try to say that God or His law has been replaced, you cannot help but admit either polytheism or some form of evolutionism. It is just that simple. God said in Malachi 3 and verse 6, "I the Lord change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed."

In systematic theology books, we read about the immutability, or unchangeableness, of God. God does not change. You say, “But Brother Weaver, in this day and age, we’re saved by grace.” Let me tell you, they were saved by grace in the Old Testament. Anytime anybody has ever been saved, it has been by grace. But the Bible teaches that the proper response to grace is obedience to God’s law.

That is why He said in John 14:21, “He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me.” In verse 24, “He that keepeth not my sayings, loveth me not.” First John 5:3 says, “And this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.” The response to grace, even in the New Testament, is obedience to God’s law.

Here is the principle: one God, one law. Secondly, you have to understand that all law is religious. That includes man's law. It may not be the Christian religion; it may be a humanistic religion, but it is religious. We know that God's law is true and accurate, and religious in this sense, because it proceeds from God Himself. Man's law is also religious, even though it may not be true or accurate.

How can man's law be religious? Behind every law that man issues is a determination of what is right and wrong, good or bad, fit or unfit, just or unjust. When a man says, "This is a good law," he is giving a religious determination of what he considers good. Therefore, you cannot have an unreligious law. It may be humanistic or atheistic, but it is still religious. Humanism is religion. Atheism is religion. Cults, isms, and schisms are all religions.

No matter who issues a law, it is a religious law. When a politician says, "We're unbiased, and we're not going to force religion upon anyone," that is exactly what he is doing: forcing his non-religion or humanistic religion upon someone. Law, no matter whose law it is, governs man and society. It establishes and declares what is just and right in the eyes of the lawgiver. If God issues His law, He declares what is just and right; if the law comes from man, man declares what is just and right.

There can be no disestablishment of religion per se. If you say, "We're not going to go by the Ten Commandments; we're not going to go by the Bible. We're going to disestablish that," no, you are not disestablishing religion. You may be kicking out the Christian religion, but you are establishing, in its place, humanistic religion. You are simply trading religions.

That is basically what has happened in this country. We have changed religion. No society or culture can exist without a system of law. We have to have law. The question is, whose law will we have? Our law system determines morality.

The source of one's law is his God. If you can discover the source of the law of a society, you can discover who the God of that society really is. When archaeologists go digging around those ancient ruins, one of the first things they want to discover is their source of law. If

they can ascertain the source of law, they can figure out whom they worshipped and what their God was.

So if you try to tell me, “Brother Weaver, I don’t need the Bible. I’m a rational, cool-headed, level-headed, thinking individual, and I can reason things out in my mind,” your reason is your God. Your rationality is your God. That is why they called it the Enlightenment and the Age of Reason: men rejected the Word of God and depended upon their reason. You may say, “I don’t have to figure out anything, because those nine black robe justices up on the Supreme Court declare what law is.” Then they are your gods. The source of your law is basically your God.

If we acknowledge God as our God, then His law is in our lives. If we look to His law as the source for governing our lives, then we are acknowledging Him as our God. If we look to the state or to the federal government, then we are acknowledging them as our God. Modern-day humanism and modern-day political correctness always locate law in the state—not merely the state of South Carolina or Georgia, but the federal government, or the state.

It doesn't matter—statism; it's all referring to basically the same thing. Hegel said, “The state incarnates the divine idea upon the earth.” To paraphrase him, the state is God walking on earth. The German philosopher Johann Fichte said, “The state is the supreme power, ultimate and beyond repeal, absolutely independent.” The state is absolute and beyond repeal.

Israel's Rejection of God in 1 Samuel 8

Hitler said it like this: “The state dominates the nation because it alone represents the nation.” Mussolini, the fascist dictator of Italy, said, “The state embraces everything and nothing has value outside of the state. The state creates right.” You want to know why we have abortion in this country and why most people think abortion is not murder and not sin? Because the state said it is not sin. The state said it is not murder. The state creates right.

How did we arrive at our state of political correctness? How did we arrive at the stage in this country where everything has to be done in favor of government? How did we get to the point where

government determines right and wrong, good and evil, what is just and what is unjust?

If you've never read anything by Albert J. Nock, I would encourage you to do so. Nock wrote a book entitled Our Enemy the State. There is a Nockian society; N-O-C-K is his last name. If you understand statism and humanism, listen to what he said. Nock said, “In this view,” that is, in the statist view, “there is no other criterion of right and wrong but the approval or disapproval of the state. There is no criterion of justice between man and man except the interest of the state. If what one man does to another affects the state favorably, it is just, even fraud, arson, theft, and murder.” Now you can understand abortion and everything else in this country.

"If unfavorably, it is unjust." Do you realize that is the thinking of the federal government today? That is the thinking of most state governments. Everything has to be done for the state. If it is done for the state, then it is fine, no matter what it is. Consider these things as we look at 1 Samuel chapter 8 and see literally how civil and governmental fornication developed. It had been present before 1 Samuel chapter 8, but this is a very good, clear illustration of it.

"Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah, and said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways. Now make us a king to judge us like all the nations. But the thing displeased Samuel, when they said, Give us a king to judge us. And Samuel prayed unto the Lord. And the Lord said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them.

"According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt, even unto this day, wherewith they have forsaken me, and served other gods, so do they also unto thee. Now therefore hearken unto their voice: howbeit yet protest solemnly unto them, and shew them the manner of the king that shall reign over them. And Samuel told all the words of the Lord unto the people that asked of him a king. And he said, This will be the manner of the king that shall reign over you."

"He will take your sons, and appoint them for himself, for his chariots, and to be his horsemen; and some shall run before his chariots. And he will appoint him captains over thousands, and captains over fifties; and will set them to ear his ground, and to reap his harvest, and to make his instruments of war, and instruments of his chariots. And he will take your daughters to be confectionaries, and to be cooks, and to be bakers. And he will take your fields, and your vineyards, and your oliveyards, even the best of them, and give them to his servants. And he will take the tenth of your seed, and of your vineyards, and give to his officers, and to his servants. And he will take your menservants, and your maidservants, and your goodliest young men, and your asses, and put them to his work. And he will take the tenth of your sheep: and ye shall be his servants."

"And ye shall cry out in that day because of your king which ye shall have chosen you; and the Lord will not hear you in that day. Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, Nay; but we will have a king over us; that we also may be like all the nations; and that our king may judge us, and go out before us, and fight our battles."

If you examine this passage closely, you will discover the root of statism and also the root of civil and governmental fornication. Note several things in this passage. First of all, there was a theocratic rejection. Theos is the Greek word for God. Kratos is the Greek word for power. Theocratic simply means the rule or reign of God by virtue of God's power. Look in verse 7.

"And the Lord said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them."

When they realized that Samuel was old and his sons were not walking in his ways, they came and said, "Make us a king." They did not ask Samuel to pray and ask the Lord what He would have, or to ask the Lord to raise up another prophet like himself. They simply said, "Make us a king." God said that when Samuel prayed, "They have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me." In First Samuel, chapter eight, they were trading God for a man. The reason they were going to trade God for a man was so that they could be like all the other nations.

Do you realize it was precisely this one thing that made Israel unique? They were the only nation that had God as their King. In Deuteronomy 4:5, Moses says to Israel, "Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as the Lord my God commanded me, that ye should do so in the land whither ye go to possess it."

"Keep therefore and do them"—he is talking about God's law. "Keep therefore and do them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people. For what nation is there so great, who hath God so nigh unto them, as the Lord our God is in all things that we call upon him for? And what nation is there so great, that hath statutes and judgments so righteous as all this law?" "which I set before you this day."

That which made Israel unique was that they had God's law. Not only did they have God's law; God was their king. He was their sovereign. He was their ruler. Yet, when you look back in 1 Samuel 8, what they want to do is trade God for a man. They were willing to sacrifice this uniqueness that they might be like everybody else.

In 1 Samuel 10:19, Samuel gives a further explanation of 1 Samuel 8: "And ye have this day rejected your God, who himself saved you out of all your adversities and your tribulations; and ye have said unto him, Nay, but set a king over us."

“Now therefore present yourselves before the Lord by your tribes, and by your thousands.” Look at what he said: You have rejected your God. You do not want God ruling over you. In 1 Samuel 12:12, he said, “And when ye saw that Nahash the king of the children of Ammon came against you, ye said unto me, Nay; but a king shall reign over us: when the Lord your God was your king.” In 1 Samuel 8:7, God says, “They have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them.” They did not want God; they wanted a man.

This must be pointed out clearly and distinctly. It was not merely an individual rejecting God; it was the entire nation, a people. They did not want to acknowledge Him as their King and Sovereign. May I remind you that when the American War for Independence was

being fought, there was a battle cry our colonists used: “No King, but King Jesus.” They were saying, “We do not want George III. He is not our king. We want King Jesus. It is only King Jesus who will rule over us.”

Thus, in 1 Samuel 8, there was a theocratic rejection: “We do not want God.” That is exactly what America today has done, just like Israel of old. We have rejected God. Secondly, there was a theonomic rejection.

Theos is the Greek word for God, and nomos is the word for law. A theonomic rejection is rejection of God’s law. When God said, “They have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them,” how does God reign? How does God rule? The answer is, by His law. A king rules by his law. Therefore, when you reject God, you reject His law. It is a theonomic rejection. The law of God has been given to lead, guide, and direct us, and it reveals God’s edicts and commands.

When we think of the law, we tend to think of the Ten Commandments, or of the first five books of the Bible, the Pentateuch. But truthfully, all of the Bible is God's law, because God rules by His law. The Bible says in Isaiah 33 and verse 22, "For the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our lawgiver; the Lord is our king; he will save us." God is judge, lawgiver, and king. In reality, you cannot separate God and His law.

I have separated them for your consideration. When I spoke of a theocratic rejection, I showed you that. Now I am telling you there is a theonomic rejection, but really and truly they stand or fall together. When one rejects God, he automatically rejects His law.

Look at 2 Kings chapter 17, beginning with verse 7: "And it was so, that the children of Israel had sinned against the Lord their God, which had brought them up out of the land of Egypt, from under the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and had feared other gods."

Look at that carefully. God had brought the children of Israel out of Egypt, from under the hand of Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and they had feared other gods. How do you know what God you fear? How could I look at Kevin and determine who his God is, or what God he

fears? How could I look at a Muslim and tell what God he fears? How could I look at a Hindu or Buddhist and tell what God he fears?

Now let me show you. This gets very practical. Again, 2 Kings 17, verse 7: "For so it was, that the children of Israel had sinned against the Lord their God, which had brought them up out of the land of Egypt, from under the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and had feared other gods." How do we know they did? What was the evidence? What was the manifestation? Here it is.

"And walked in the statutes of the heathen, whom the Lord cast out from before the children of Israel, and of the kings of Israel, which they had made." They took God's law and set it aside. They said, "We're going to keep Baal's law. We'll keep Asherah's law. We'll keep the laws of the heathen. We will keep the laws of Israel."

You have to remember something about the laws of Israel. Every king that the ten northern tribes had—the kings of Israel—was reprobate and corrupt. Not one was godly. Do you remember Jeroboam I? What is the first thing he did in 1 Kings chapter 12? He made two golden calves, set one of them down in Bethel, and said, "These be thy gods, O Israel." Every king of Israel worshiped the golden calves.

And what is Judah doing? The same thing Israel did. They were taking the laws of the heathen and obeying them. "And walked in the statutes of the heathen, whom the Lord cast out from before the children of Israel, and of the kings of Israel, which they had made. And the children of Israel did secretly those things that were not right against the Lord their God."

"And they built them high places in all their cities, from the tower of the watchmen to the fenced city. And they set them up images and groves in every high hill, and under every green tree: And there they burnt incense in all the high places, as did the heathen whom the Lord carried away before them; and wrought wicked things to provoke the Lord to anger: And they served idols, whereof the Lord had said unto them, Ye shall not do this thing."

"Yet the Lord testified against Israel, and against Judah, by all the prophets, and by all the seers, saying, Turn ye from your evil ways, and keep my commandments and my statutes, according to all the

law which I commanded your fathers, and which I sent to you by my servants the prophets. Notwithstanding they would not hear, but hardened their necks, like to the neck of their fathers, that did not believe in the Lord their God." Verse 15 says, "And they rejected his statutes, and his covenant that he made with their fathers, and his testimonies which he testified against them; and they followed vanity, and became vain, and went after the heathen that were round about them, concerning whom the Lord had charged them, that they should not do like them. And they left all the commandments of the Lord their God, and made them molten images, even two calves, and made a grove, and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served Baal. And they caused their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire, and used divination and enchantments, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the Lord, to provoke him to anger."

Do you see what they did when they rejected God? They rejected God's law. But you have to have a law. No society can exist without a law. Since they rejected God, God's not their lawgiver. Baal is. Or the state is. Or Molech is. Or Asherah happens to be their lawgiver. They lived according to the laws of the heathen.

Verses 18 and 19 show that it was not only the ten northern tribes. "Therefore the Lord was very angry with Israel, and removed them out of his sight: there was none left but the tribe of Judah only. Also Judah kept not the commandments of the Lord their God, but walked in the statutes of Israel which they made. And the Lord rejected all the seed of Israel, and afflicted them, and delivered them into the hand of spoilers, until he had cast them out of his sight."

If you will read 2 Kings 17, you will find exactly why God sent not only the ten northern tribes into captivity into Assyria, but the two southern tribes into captivity into Babylon. Why? Because they rejected Him and they rejected His law. They committed civil and governmental fornication. They committed theological and ideological fornication first. It led to civil and governmental fornication because they rejected God and His law, established a pagan, heathenistic law system, and developed a pagan and heathenistic culture and society. God says this is why He sent them into captivity.

Micah 6, toward the end of the Old Testament, beginning with verses 13 through 16, says, “Therefore also will I make thee sick in smiting thee, in making thee desolate because of thy sins.” Although this passage concerns Israel, think about America as we read it. If you want to know where we are and how we got here, think about our economic condition and our agricultural condition—the drought that is raging and the floods that are raging. Watch what God says.

There is a lot of sickness and a lot of desolation. He says in verse 14: “Thou shalt eat, but not be satisfied; and thy casting down shall be in the midst of thee; and thou shalt take hold, but shalt not deliver; and that which thou deliverest will I give up to the sword. Thou shalt sow, but thou shalt not reap; thou shalt tread the olives, but thou shalt not anoint thee with oil; and sweet wine, but shalt not drink wine.”

Why are all the judgments coming? “For the statutes of Omri are kept.” Omri was the father of Ahab. “For the statutes of Omri are kept, and all the works of the house of Ahab, and ye walk in their counsels; that I should make thee a desolation, and the inhabitants thereof an hissing: therefore ye shall bear the reproach of my people.” Why are they being judged? Because they are walking under an alien law system. They are not following God’s law; they are following man’s law.

You have to understand that rejection of God’s law is a rejection of God Himself, for a king rules by his law. Anytime you reject God’s law system, it is only so that you may receive an alien law system. You cannot live without law. You have to have a law system.

Consequences of Governmental Fornication

When you have a government which was initially established as a Christian government, and now that Christian government is kicked out, you now have a religious, humanistic, alien law system. So there is a theocratic rejection. There is a theonomic rejection. There is also involved in this a pastoral or prophetic rejection. Go back to 1 Samuel chapter 8, because this is involved as well. Notice in 1 Samuel 8, verse 5: “And they said unto him,” that is, to Samuel, “Behold, thou art old.”

"Thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations." Samuel was an old man, but God showed him that Israel's demand was not merely against Samuel. In verse 8, He said, "According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt even unto this day, wherewith they have forsaken me, and served other gods, so do they also unto thee."

When an individual, a family, a church, a society, or a nation rejects God and His law, at the same time it rejects all of God's representatives and messengers. Study the lives of Elijah, Jeremiah, Hosea, Amos, and the other prophets: the people would not listen to them because they had no respect for God, and therefore no respect for His messenger. I have preached many messages, and people have said, "Oh, Brother Weaver, if you could just preach that in Congress, they wouldn't listen." You know what? They have rejected God and God's law. Therefore, they will reject any message from God.

Look in your Bibles at Second Chronicles, chapter 36; hold First Samuel 8, for we are not through there. Verse 15 says, "And the Lord God of their fathers sent to them," His people, "by his messengers, rising up betimes, and sending; because he had compassion on his people, and on his dwelling place." Whenever God is going to show mercy to His people, He sends them His preachers and prophets. He sent them because He had compassion on His people and His dwelling place. But verse 16 says, "But they mocked the messengers of God, and despised his words, and misused his prophets, until the wrath of the Lord arose against his people, till there was no remedy."

Therefore he brought upon them the king of the Chaldees, who slew their young men with the sword in the house of their sanctuary, and had no compassion upon young man or maiden, old man, or him that stooped for age: he gave them all into his hand.

In verse 16, God sent His prophets, but they mocked the messengers of God. Notice that messengers is plural—more than one. They mocked the messengers of God and despised His words, singular, that is, God's words. His messengers were speaking His words, and so they despised God's words. They mocked the messengers of God and misused His prophets until the wrath of God

arose against them, till there was no remedy. Why? Because of civil and governmental fornication.

Our Lord taught the same thing in Matthew 21:33–45. You remember what our Lord said in John chapter 15: “If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If they will receive me, they'll receive you. If they don't receive me, they won't receive you. The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you.” Obviously, when there is a theocratic and theonomic rejection, there is also going to be a prophetic and pastoral rejection.

What are the consequences of civil and governmental fornication? What happens when we reject God's law and God Himself and get an alien law system? God shows us in 1 Samuel chapter 8. First, there is going to be an unbiblical military conscription. Verse 11 says, “And this will be the manner of the king that shall reign over you: He will take your sons, and appoint them for himself, for his chariots, and to be his horsemen; and some shall run before his chariots.”

There was no standing army in the Bible, in the Old Testament per se, until David. David basically started everything with militia. When our country was first founded, there was no standing army; it was a militia. A king cannot have a war if the only fighters he has are a citizen's militia and the citizens do not want the war. But if you have a standing army, the king can say, “All right, you sir, you're in my army.”

Now you go over to Pakistan or Afghanistan and die over there. “I’m going to send you over there. I’ll take your sons. I’ll take your daughters. I’ll send them wherever I want to send them.” Because now there is a standing army. By the way, God judged David for numbering the people, counting them as his army.

So there will be an unbiblical military conscription. Secondly, there will be compulsory labor battalions for the state. Verse 12 says, “And he will appoint him captains over thousands, and captains over fifties; and will set them to ear his ground, and to reap his harvest, and to make his instruments of war, and instruments of his chariots.” Verse 16 says, “And he will take your menservants, and

your maidservants, and your goodliest young men, and your asses, and put them to his work."

This is what I have been saying earlier: when you have statism, everything has to be done for the state. Why do you think the federal government is claiming 90% of the land in Nevada? Why do you think they are after 900,000 acres in Texas? Everything has to be done for them. Constitutionally, the federal government cannot own any land except that one little place where they are existing in the District of Columbia.

Thirdly, there will be an expropriation of property, land, and livestock. Verse 14 says, "And he will take your fields, and your vineyards, and your oliveyards, even the best of them, and give them to his servants." Formerly, under eminent domain, they could take your property only if a road had to go through there or a hospital had to be built. Now they will take your property and build a recreational baseball field, if that is what they want. God says this is the consequence we are going to suffer for rejecting Him and His law: eminent domain.

Fourth, the state or civil ruler that plays God will demand a tithe and taxes. Verse 15 says, "And he will take the tenth of your seed, and of your vineyards, and give to his officers, and to his servants." Verse 17 says, "And he will take the tenth of your sheep: and ye shall be his servants." The average American would be pleased and happy if our civil rulers only took 10 percent. The average American pays over 60% of their income in taxes. Fifth, civil governmental oppression will be so severe that people will become tired of it and fed up with it. Verse 18 says it will not do any good.

He said, "And ye shall cry out in that day because of your king which ye shall have chosen you; and the Lord will not hear you in that day." God said, "You didn't want me. You wanted a man. I'm going to let you have him. In fact, you can have him until you are sick of him." It is kind of like when those people bellyached because they wanted meat; they were tired of that manna. God said, "All right, I'll send you some quail."

And you remember what happened? While the meat was in their teeth, God slew the fattest of them. He cut them down. This is the price we pay for rejecting God and His law.

Let me answer another question. Why would Israel want to trade God for a man? Why would America want to trade God for a man? There are several reasons. The first is that men by nature erroneously think God's law is bondage. It is not. God's law is called the law of liberty. We have liberty under God's law; it is man's law that is bondage. People say, "God is so punctilious, and He says, 'Thou shalt not do this,' and, 'Thou shalt not do that.' I would rather be somewhere where I can do what I want to do." What are you saying? You are saying God's law is bondage and your law is freedom. No. What you do not understand is that man by nature is bound to sin. He is a servant and slave of Satan as well. It is God's law that sets us free.

Why Men Reject God's Law

I know about you, but I would much rather submit to ten righteous laws than to a multitude of laws that I do not even read, cannot read, do not know about, and cannot even pick up the Federal Register to understand. It is so heavy.

But here is the real reason. Look in verse 20: "That we also may be like all the nations; and that our king may judge us, and go out before us, and fight our battles." Men do not wish to be separate and unique, first and foremost. It is peer pressure. They want to be just like everyone else. They also do not want responsibilities. "We need a king. Who is going to take care of us? He is going to fight our battles. We will not have to learn to fight. We will not have to do anything."

He will provide for us. The mentality in this country today is, "I don't have to work. The government will take care of me." Do you realize a third of this country today is unemployed, and another third work for government? The only way the government can give you anything is by taking it from someone else. Men erroneously think that somehow government is going to take care of them. Government is going to be their God. It is nothing less than spiritual fornication, spiritual adultery in the realm of civil government. It is government as God. It is a denial of God, looking to man to give you

everything that should come from God, looking to man to give you only that which God can provide. It is an enthroning of man and a dethroning of God.

Application and Warning for America

Let us put two and two together. We are exactly where we are in this country because of theological and ideological fornication and because of civil and governmental fornication.

Now let me ask you a question. I want you to think about this. I know that this system is going to collapse. I do not know when. How do I know that? I know it is going to collapse because God is immutable. God does not change. He judged Israel. He judged Judah. He is going to judge us. We are doing the same thing they did. You cannot thumb your nose at God and get away with it. It is just that simple. I know it is going down. We have a fraudulent money system. We are murdering babies left and right. We are doing everything contrary to God. It is coming down. I know that. I do not know when, but I know it is coming down.

So here is my question: If it came down tomorrow—suppose the whole society collapsed tomorrow—and we were left alive, the only ones in the community around, and had to rebuild, whose law structure would we use to rebuild society? If you tell me, “I would use the best of man’s law systems,” you are just setting up another failure and another collapse.

One last passage: turn to Proverbs chapter 8. I want you to see this. Jesus Christ is wisdom personified. I want you to see what our Lord says. Proverbs 8, verse 35: “For whoso findeth me findeth life, and shall obtain favour of the Lord.”

"But he that sinneth against me wrongeth his own soul: all they that hate me love death." The only thing man can produce apart from Jesus Christ is a society of death. That is why George Orwell wrote, "If you want a vision of the future, envision a boot stamping in a human face forever." All Orwell saw was a society without Jesus Christ. All man can produce is a society of death. Life is in the hands of God, not in the hands of man.

If we rebuild biblically, we shall live. If we do not, we will die. Father, in the name of Jesus Christ, we ask for Your love, grace, and mercy. Teach us to understand spiritual fornication and adultery, and how they permeate our individual lives, family lives, society, government, and economic system. May we learn to be true to Thee in every area of our lives. In the name of Jesus Christ, we ask and pray. Amen.

Source Notes

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Chapter 2: Spiritual Fornication - Part 2
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